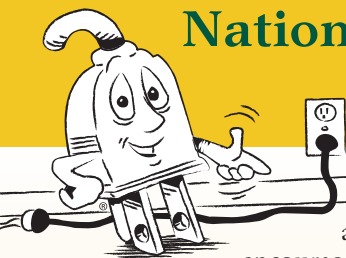


CONNECTED

April 2003



National Electrical Safety Month Provides an Ideal Opportunity to Make Your Life a Little Safer



The Marietta Board of Lights and Water (BLW) encourages all City of Marietta residents to join the nationwide observance of National Electrical Safety Month this May.

Electricity plays an important role in all of our lives and we all need to understand how to use electricity and electrical products safely. For that reason, the National Electrical Safety Foundation (NESF) designated May as National Electrical Safety Month. Promoting National Electrical Safety Month provides the Marietta BLW with the opportunity to increase public awareness about electrical safety in the City of Marietta homes, schools, and workplaces.

The human and corporate costs of preventable electrical safety problems may astonish you.

For example:

- The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reports that one person gets electrocuted in the home every 25 hours.
- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) reports that one person gets electrocuted in the workplace every day.
- More than 40,000 residential electrical fires occur each year because of problems with home electrical wiring, according to CPSC data.
- Fires caused by faulty home electrical wiring claim more than 350 human lives, cause thousands of injuries and cost over \$2 billion in personal property damage each year, according to the CPSC.
- Litigation related to electrocutions and fires caused by faulty wiring costs businesses millions of dollars in lost productivity and assets.

continued

*electric
extras*



Proper Use of Outdoor Extension Cords

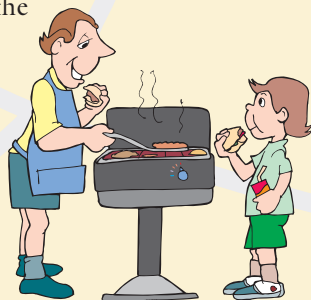
The arrival of spring brings renewed enthusiasm for outdoor activities such as gardening, cookouts, garden parties, and simple relaxation. Often, an extension cord can make the difference between success and a tragic outcome.

To ensure the success of your projects and activities, Marietta Power encourages you to:

- ✓ **Purchase Extension Cords Labeled "For Outdoor Use Only"** Weather-resistant heavy-gauge extension cords have specially molded connectors that prevent moisture from seeping in. Manufacturers also design these cords to withstand being dragged along the ground.
- ✓ **Select the Proper Length** Outdoor extension cords come in lengths ranging from 25-feet to 150-feet. However, you can sometimes lose power when using a cord longer than

100-feet, which can prove hazardous when using power tools.

- ✓ **Unwind Cords Before Using Them** As you do, check for damage. If the insulation is worn or cracked, replace the cord immediately.
- ✓ **Keep Off the Cords** Walking on extension cords can damage insulation and wires.
- ✓ **Connect Plugs Completely** Make sure that you insert plugs all the way into the socket.
- ✓ **Unplug When Not in Use** Never leave a tool or appliance plugged into an extension cord that's connected to an outlet. ✓



Visit Marietta Power on the Internet: www.mariettapower.com

National Electrical Safety Month Provides an Ideal Opportunity to Make Your Life a Little Safer

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As part of this year’s National Electrical Safety Month observance, the Marietta BLW, the NESF, and the CPSC urge you to install or test ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) in your homes and workplaces. They should be located in all bathrooms, on all outdoor receptacles including garages and unfinished basements. GFCIs prevent serious electrical shock or electrocution by shutting off power in a circuit if they detect leakage of electrical current termed ground faults. This leakage could use your body as a path causing death by electrocution or a severe burn.

American businesses and homeowners have installed more than 400 million GFCIs since the early 1970s. But a recent industry study revealed that about ten percent may have sustained damage because of electrical storms

and other common circumstances. Time has also taken a toll on many GFCIs.

GFCIs have likely saved hundreds of lives and prevented thousands of serious injuries in the last three decades. People should not take GFCIs for granted, however. People should test GFCIs periodically, just as they would test their smoke alarms. It takes just ten seconds a month to protect one’s self and one’s family.

GFCIs typically have “TEST” and “RESET” buttons in visible locations. Marietta Power urges consumers to use these buttons to check GFCIs monthly and after every major electrical storm.

For more information on GFCIs and electrical safety, please contact Marietta Power by calling 770-794-5150 or by sending an e-mail to thepower@city.marietta.ga.us. ⚡

Calendar of Events

<p>May 1 <i>Brown Bag Concert Series</i> Marietta Square 12 noon - 1 p.m.</p>	<p>May 9 - 10 <i>American Cancer Society's Relay for Life</i> Jim Miller Park Call 770-429-0089 for information</p>	<p>May 17 - 18 <i>Bluegrass Festival</i> Jim R. Miller Park Call 770-941-7591 for information</p>
<p>May 3 - 4 <i>Through The Garden Gate: A Spring Garden Tour</i> Call 770-426-4982 for information</p>	<p>May 10 <i>Tour the Private Gardens of Cobb County Master Gardeners</i> Call 770-528-4070 for information</p>	<p>May 29 <i>Brown Bag Concert Series</i> Marietta Square 12 noon - 1 p.m.</p>
<p>May 3 - 4 <i>Mayretta-Daze Arts & Crafts Festival</i> Marietta Square Free Call 770-794-5601 for information</p>	<p>May 10 - 24 <i>"Cinderella" By Junior Players</i> Little General/Cobb Community Playhouse Call 770-565-3995 for information</p>	<p>May 30 - June 28 <i>"On Golden Pond" By Cobb Players</i> Call 770-565-3995 for information</p>
<p>May 7 - June 15 <i>"Mahalia" By Tom Stolz</i> Theatre In The Square Call 770-422-8369 for tickets and information</p>	<p>May 15 <i>Brown Bag Concert Series</i> Marietta Square 12 noon - 1 p.m.</p>	<p>May 30 <i>Glover Park Concert Series</i> Marietta Square 8 p.m. Call 770-794-5601 for information</p>
<p>May 8 <i>Brown Bag Concert Series</i> Marietta Square 12 noon - 1 p.m.</p>	<p>May 16 - June 14 <i>"Forever Plaid" By Barnbuster Musicals</i> Little General/Cobb Community Playhouse Call 770-565-3995 for information</p>	<p>May 31 - June 28 <i>"Alice in Wonderland" By Little General Players</i> Call 770-565-3995 for information</p>
	<p>May 16 - 17 <i>Marietta Bluegrass Festival</i> Jim Miller Park Call 770-941-7591 for information</p>	